State of Mississippi

Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce

Agriculture Fact Sheet Aquaculture 2014

Catfish



- Mississippi ranks #1 in the United States in farm raised catfish production.
- 275 operations in Mississippi.
- 43,800 acres of production in 2014.
- \$197 million value of production in 2014.
- 5,000 pounds of catfish per acre is the typical annual production.

Tilapia

- Tilapia did not originate in the United States and, as such, are classified as a non-native species.
- Tilapia can spawn every 45 to 70 days.
- Temperatures below 55 degrees are fatal to tilapia.

Freshwater Shrimp (Prawns)

- Freshwater shrimp are not native to the United States.
- Like all other crustaceans prawns have a hard outer shell.
- The average stocking rates are 12,000 to 16,000 prawns per acre.
- The grow-out period for these shrimp ranges from 120 to 150 days in Central Mississippi.
- Yields typically range from 500 to 1000 pounds per acre.
- The average count per pound (live weight) is 12.5 to 16 shrimp.

Gamefish

- There are approximately 20 producers in the state.
- This area of aquaculture has an expanding future with the growing number of fee fishing ponds and managed lakes.

Source: Mississippi State University

Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce
Cindy Hyde-Smith, Commissioner
Phone (601) 359-1100 www.mdac.ms.gov

